

one thousand, and which intimated that the Sunday school teachers would defeat the constitution if this provision was kept in.

Mr. Buchanan asked for the name of the writer.

Mr. Gill would prefer not to give it, as it was a private letter.

Mr. Brewer, of Baltimore city, had an amendment which the Convention might vote on, if it desired, when the proper time arrived. The idea was to exclude teachers of theology, and his amendment was to meet that. As his friend, (Mr. Brown,) thought the lawyers were more dangerous than the preachers, perhaps it would be well to exclude them also. [Laughter.]

The amendment of Mr. Alvey was then disagreed to.

Mr. Brewer submitted his amendment, as follows:

Sec. 7. No regularly ordained or licensed clergyman or preacher of the Gospel, of any religious creed or denomination, and no person holding any civil office, &c.

Mr. Walsh was in favor of excluding all ministers of the Gospel. It was a degradation to them, and none but the most unworthy would submit to this degradation—men who use the sacred calling for unholy purposes. His friend from Baltimore, (Mr. Gill.) had read a letter, probably from some minister, and he (Mr. W.) did not want any minister who wished to enter into politics to vote for this constitution.

The amendment of Mr. Brewer was rejected.

Mr. Pleasants withdrew the substitute of which he had given notice, and offered another amendment.

Other amendments were offered and disagreed to.

Mr. Wickes said the exclusion of ministers had been provided for in the constitution of 1776 and in that of 1851, and no complaint had ever been made against it. The people were accustomed to it. His objection to their admission was, that it unfitted them to discharge the duties of their high calling. He proposed as an amendment the section taken from the constitution of 1851.

Mr. Marbury had not yet heard the real reason why this clause had been put in the constitution of 1776. He